

CLAIMS

1. Use of a preparation of an active enamel substance for the preparation of a pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition for promoting the take of a graft.
- 5 2. Use according to claim 1 for application in non-mineralized tissue.
3. Use according to claim 2 for application in tissue comprising a substantial proportion of epithelial cells.
- 10 4. Use according to claim 2 wherein the graft is a skin graft or mucosal graft.
5. Use according to claim 4 wherein the graft is an autogenous skin graft.
- 15 6. Use according to claim 4 or 5 wherein the graft is a full-thickness, split-thickness, composite, seed or mesh graft.
7. Use according to claim 4 wherein the graft comprises cultured epidermal cells, such as keratinocytes or fibroblasts, or acellular tissue-engineered dermal matrix material.
- 20 8. Use according to claim 1 wherein the graft is a bone graft.
9. Use according to claim 1 wherein the graft is a corneal transplant.
- 25 10. Use according to claim 1 wherein the graft is a hair transplant.
11. Use according to claim 1 wherein the graft is a cartilage graft.
12. Use according to claim 11 wherein the graft comprises cultured chondrocytes embedded in a carrier.
- 30 13. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the active enamel substance is enamel matrix, enamel matrix derivatives and/or enamel matrix proteins.

14. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the active enamel substance is selected from the group consisting of enamelines, amelogenins, non-amelogenins, proline-rich non-amelogenins, amelins (ameloblastin, sheathlin), tuftelins, and derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof.

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15. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the active enamel substance has a molecular weight of at the most about 120 kDa such as, e.g., at the most 100 kDa, 90 kDa, 80 kDa, 70 kDa or 60 kDa as determined by SDS Page electrophoresis.

10 16. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the preparation of an active enamel substance contains a mixture of active enamel substances with different molecular weights.

15 17. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the preparation of an active enamel substance comprises at least two substances selected from the group consisting of amelogenins, proline-rich non-amelogenins, tuftelin, tuft proteins, serum proteins, salivary proteins, amelins, ameloblastin, sheathlin, and derivatives thereof.

20 18. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the active enamel substance has a molecular weight of up to about 40,000.

19. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the active enamel substance has a molecular weight of between about 5,000 and about 25,000.

25 20. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the major part of the active enamel substance has a molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

30 21. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein at least a part of the active enamel substance is in the form of aggregates or after application in vivo is capable of forming aggregates.

22. Use according to claim 22, wherein the aggregates have a particle size of from about 20 nm to about 1 μ m.

23. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the protein content of the active enamel substance in the preparation is in a range of from about 0.05% w/w to 100% w/w such as, e.g., about 5-99% w/w, about 10-95% w/w, about 15-90% w/w, about 20-90% w/w, about 30-90% w/w, about 40-85% w/w, about 50-80% w/w, about 60-70% w/w, 5 about 70-90% w/w, or about 80-90% w/w.

24. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

10 25. Use according to claim 24, wherein the pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient is propylene glycol alginate.

26. Use according to claim 24, wherein the pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient is hyaluronic acid or salts or derivatives thereof.

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27. Use according to any of claims 1-26 of EMDOGAIN® or any proteins or peptides contained therein for the treatment of grafts.

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20 28. A method for promoting the take of a graft, the method comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of an active enamel substance.

29. A method according to claim 28, wherein the active enamel substance is applied in an amount of total protein per cm² of graft bed area corresponding to from about 0.01 25 mg/cm² to about 20 mg/cm², such as from about 0.1 mg/cm² to about 15 mg/cm².

30. A method according to claim 28, wherein the active enamel substance is applied on the site of the graft before application of the graft.

30 31. A method according to claim 30, wherein the active enamel substance is applied for a period of up to 72 hours before the application of the graft.

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